

Alabama Medicaid Agency Response to Bidder's Questions  
Managed Care Independent Assessment, 09-X-2199621

Page #	Paragraph #	Question/Answer
5	3	<p>Scope of work to be completed in 45 days. <b>Is this 45 business days or 45 calendar days?</b></p> <p><b>A: 45 Calendar Days</b></p>
6	2	<p>Bids are due 10/14/2008. <b>Due to Monday 10/13/2008 being a federal holiday (no postal service), would the contracting officer consider a brief extension to the due date of responding to this ITB?</b></p> <p><b>A: Due to time constraints, an extension cannot be allowed.</b></p>
33	1	<p>Maternity Care Program is divided into 14 districts. <b>1. Must the contract award recipient perform assessments in all 14 districts?</b></p> <p><b>A: It is anticipated that all 14 districts would be assessed. Please refer to Section 4.2 for the specific scope of work.</b></p> <p><b>2. Are there a specific number of providers within each district that must be assessed?</b></p> <p><b>A: Please refer to Section 4.2 for the specific scope of work.</b></p> <p><b>3. Please describe the provider types included in each district that will be assessed.</b></p> <p><b>A: Please refer to Section 4.2 for the specific scope of work. Each district has subcontracts with family physicians, general practitioners and OB/GYNs.</b></p>
34	1	<p>Information contained in this section concludes that the majority of the scope of work requirements can be met through on site staff interviews and documentation review. <b>Should the contractor anticipate obtaining data via interviews solely with state staff or will the contractor also need to conduct interviews with providers to obtain sufficient data and if so, can the state provide clarification on:</b></p> <p><b>1. The number of providers and/or sites to be interviewed?</b> <b>2. If these providers are concentrated in particular areas or throughout the state?</b> <b>3. Is the state looking for a statistically valid sample?</b> <b>4. Is there consistency to the provider files to be assessed or is it expected that the contractor use a specific tool for assessing provider files?</b></p> <p><b>A: It is anticipated that the successful contractor will be able to accomplish the requisite work solely based on interviews with and document review of State staff. There should be minimal need for contact with the individual Maternity districts.</b></p>
36	1	<p>Information contained in this section indicates that the final report is due 45 days after the contract start date. It would seem difficult to coordinate site visits to conduct the necessary personnel interviews and other data collection, review the data, as well as construct a report within such a condensed time frame. <b>Would the state consider proposals with a longer time frame?</b></p> <p><b>A: Due to time constraints, a longer time frame cannot be considered.</b></p>
30	3	<p>2.39 Payment <b>Can the state provide clarification on the estimated number of hours or dollar amount anticipated for completing this work?</b></p> <p><b>A: No.</b></p>
0	0	<p><b>Is there an incumbent / or an entity that has been providing the state with technical assistance that is eligible to respond to this RFP?</b></p> <p><b>A: Any qualified entity is eligible to respond. Award will be based on the lowest bid from a qualified, responsive bidder.</b></p>

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Page	Section	Question/Answer
34	4.0	<p>a. How many interviews do you anticipate will be needed and what do you estimate as the total time for these interviews?</p> <p>A: It is anticipated that a minimum of 7 working days will be necessary to conduct staff interviews.</p> <p>b. To what extent can all or some portion of these interviews be conducted by phone or other electronic media, e.g. webex.</p> <p>A: That is at the discretion of the Contractor.</p>
5	1.0	<p><b>CMS WAIVER PROGRAM INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS: GUIDANCE TO STATES</b> document (pg 5 Section 1.0)</p> <p>a. What portions of the CMS WAIVER PROGRAM INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS: GUIDANCE TO STATES will you be using to either evaluate the proposed analysis or choose a vendor?</p> <p>A: This document was used to prepare this ITB.</p> <p>b. Will you use the bullets in Section B of this document to help guide your choice of a vendor?</p> <p>A: This document was used to prepare this ITB. The qualifications listed herein will be the criteria by which a vendor is chosen.</p>
34-36	4.2-4.6	<p><b>Evaluation</b></p> <p>a. The ITB suggests that the analysis is primarily descriptive. Will there be any primary data analysis? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. what sections in the Scope of Work (pgs 34-36, Sections 4.2-4.6) will the be required for,</li> <li>2. what databases will be used,</li> <li>3. how large are they, and</li> <li>4. in what format will they be made available?</li> </ol> <p>A: This information is not maintained in any type database. It will require oral interviews and document review. Some of the documents may be available electronically. That determination can be made after meeting with the Contractor.</p> <p>b. To what extent will the state be providing the documents necessary to address each of the bullets in the Scope of Work, (pgs 34-36 sections 4.2 through 4.6) , e.g. describe the use and effectiveness of provider profiles, review the CMS provider expenditure projections relative to the actual expenditures.</p> <p>A: The State will provide whatever documents may be necessary for the Contractor.</p> <p>c. How soon after contract approval can we expect to receive any documents provided by the state to support the evaluation.</p> <p>A: The State will work with the Contractor upon contract start to identify the requisite documents and will at that time determine a mutually agreeable deliverable schedule.</p>
		<p><b>Previous Evaluations</b></p> <p>a. The Patient 1st Program was operational between 1997 and 2004, with a break in operations from 2005 and 2006. (pg 34 Sect 4.0) Will you provide a previous independent evaluation report of this</p>

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		<p><b>program from the original operating time period? Based on that report, will you also provide specific contract terms, such as contractor name, length of contract, summary of the scope of work, and total dollar amount of the contract?</b></p> <p><b>A:</b> The scope of work for the previous evaluation included additional elements and did not include cost effectiveness.</p> <p><b>b.</b> The Maternity Care Program has been operational since 1997 with a design change in 2005. (pg 34 Sect 4.0) Will you provide a previous independent evaluation report of this program from an earlier operating time period? Based on that report, will you also provide specific contract terms, such as contractor name, length of contract, summary of the scope of work, and total dollar amount of the contract?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The scope of work for the previous evaluation included additional elements and did not include cost effectiveness.</p> <p><b>c.</b> Is it possible to see a copy of any of the previous evaluations?</p> <p><b>A.</b> A copy of the report has been posted to the Medicaid website <a href="http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov">www.medicaid.alabama.gov</a> under News.</p>
7		<p><b>Qualifications</b> Are the documents to meet the qualifications stated on Pg 7 Sections 1.4 available currently? If so, where? "The bidder must in the bid demonstrate a thorough working knowledge of program policy requirements as described in these ITB specifications, including but not limited to the applicable Operational Manuals, State Plan for Medical Assistance, Administrative Code requirements and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requirements.</p> <p><b>A:</b> The Administrative Code and Operational Manuals are available via the Agency website at <a href="http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov">www.medicaid.alabama.gov</a>. The CFR is available at <a href="http://www.gpoaccess.gov">www.gpoaccess.gov</a> and the State Plan can be viewed at the Medicaid Agency.</p>